

Fact Sheet

Hotspots Dropping, But the Fires Still Linger in Mid-September

Analysis of hotspot distribution for the period ending September 14, 2026

The data covers the period from September 1–14, 2026, and is rolling (will continue to accumulate until the end of the month). Data was compiled from VIIRS, Suomi NPP, and MODIS satellite hotspots at medium and high confidence levels.

139,378

total hotspots
within 1–14
September 2026

78%

national hotspots located
in Central Kalimantan and
West Kalimantan

90.9%

hotspots in South
Papua located within
Minister of Forestry
Decree No. 519/2025
area

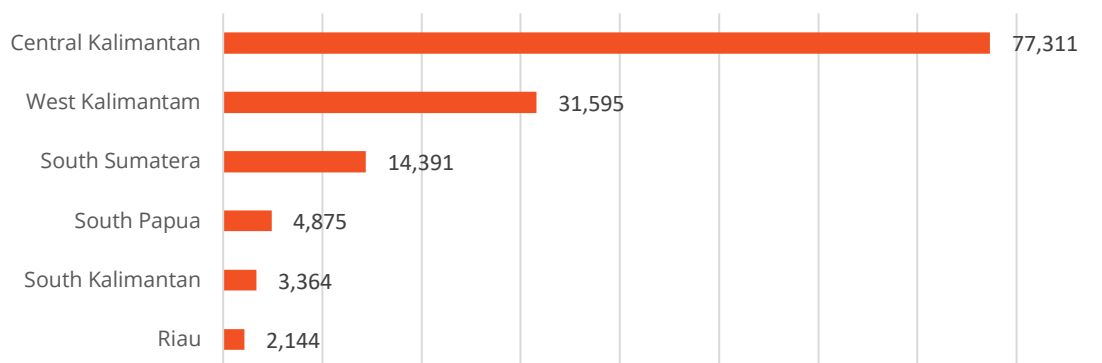
57%

hotspots located within
protected peatland area

Central and West Kalimantan Dominate Hotspot Counts

From September 1–14, a total of 139,378 hotspots were recorded nationwide, averaging 9,955 hotspots per day. Central Kalimantan contributed 77,311 hotspots (55%), making it the province with the highest number of hotspots, followed by West Kalimantan with 31,595 (23%). Together, these two provinces accounted for 78% of all national hotspots. South Sumatra ranked third with 14,391 (10%), far below the two Kalimantan provinces, followed by South Papua (4,875) and South Kalimantan (3,364).

**6 Provinces with Most Hotspots
1–14 September 2026**



Hotspots Persist in Former Central Kalimantan Food Estate Area

Hotspots in Central Kalimantan were heavily concentrated in the former Food Estate area, representing 40.1% of the province's total from September 1–14, 2026. Of the 77,311 hotspots recorded statewide, 31,022 were detected across five project blocks, with Block C recording the highest concentration at 18,082 hotspots.



Dominance of Hotspots in Land Released Under Ministry of Forestry Decree No. 591/2025

Consistent with National Strategic Projects in Central Kalimantan, 90.9% of all hotspots recorded from September 1 to 14 were located in zones released through Minister of Forestry Decree No. 591/2025, which designated land for national food, energy, and water self-sufficiency initiatives in South Papua.



Higher Hotspot Concentration Recorded in Protected Peat Zones

Of the total 139,378 hotspots recorded up to September 14, 79,383 (57%) occurred within protected peatland ecosystem zones, compared to 59,995 (43%) in cultivation areas. This ratio has held steady since August, revealing that fires are heavily concentrated in regions designated for environmental protection rather than limited to land allocated for business operations.

**Distribution of Hotspots by Ecosystem Function Classification
1-14 September 2026**



Corporate Footprint in HGU Plantation and PBPH Forestry Concessions

Regarding plantation concessions (HGU), the highest concentration of hotspots was detected within PT Central Sejahtera Sukses (2,179) in Central Kalimantan. For forestry concessions (PBPH), PT Mohairson Pawan Khatulistiwa in West Kalimantan registered the highest hotspot figure nationally (3,126), significantly surpassing other concession areas.

**Top 5 Plantation Concession/HGU Concessions by Hotspot Count
1-14 September 2026**

Corporation	Location	Hotspots
PT Central Sejahtera Sukses	Central kalimantan	2,179
PT Damai Agro Sejahtera	West Kalimantan	1,991

PT Kayung Agro Lestari	West Kalimantan	1,730
PT Arjuna Utama Sawit	Central Kalimantan	1,294
PT Mekar Karya Kahuripan	West Kalimantan	1,274

**Top 5 Forestry Concession/PBPH Concessions by Hotspot Count
1–14 September 2026**

Corporation	Location	Hotspots
PT Mohairson Pawan Khatulistiwa	West Kalimantan	3,126
PT Mayawana Persada	West Kalimantan	1,767
PT Bumi Mekar Hijau	South Sumatera	884
PT Rimba Raya Conservation	Central Kalimantan	491
PT Sumatera Alam Anugerah	South Sumatera	409

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Why Peatland Fires Keep Recurring

Peatland fires are not sudden, unforeseen disasters. They occur almost every year, in the exact same regions, following an identical pattern—and that is no coincidence. Indonesia's peatlands store approximately 57 gigatons of carbon, acting as a crucial climate stabilizer. However, once converted and drained, they transform into massive fuel beds that easily ignite and are extraordinarily difficult to extinguish as flames spread beneath the ground."

"When fires rage, those responsible are rarely held fully accountable. Legal proceedings against permit-holding corporations frequently stall, resulting in penalties that pale in comparison to the losses borne by local communities. Without consistent law enforcement, peat fires will recur next year in the very same locations. Further information regarding peatlands can be accessed via en.pantaugambut.id/peat-101#forest-peatland-fires.

About Pantau Gambut

Pantau Gambut is a non-governmental organization operating a network across nine Indonesian provinces, focused on research, advocacy, and campaigns to promote sustainable peatland protection and management. Pantau Gambut monitors commitments made by the government, independent organizations, and the private sector regarding peatland protection and restoration, while encouraging public involvement in overseeing the governance of these wetland ecosystems through various communication and campaign channels.